

COUNTY CORRESPONDENCE.

NEWSY LETTERS FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS.

Items of Interest From all Parts of Sumter and Adjoining Counties.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Mail your letters so that they will reach this office not later than Monday when intended for Wednesday's paper and not later than Thursday for Saturday's issue. This, of course, applies only to regular correspondence. In case of items of unusual news value, send in immediately by mail, telephone or telegraph. Such news stories are acceptable up to the hour of going to press. Wednesday's paper is printed Tuesday afternoon and Saturday's paper Friday afternoon.

ACTON.

Stateburg, April 14.—Mrs. E. N. Frierson spent several days this week with Mrs. Emma Cantey.

Miss Gena Dargan spent the weekend in Columbia.

Miss Janie Nelson has returned home from a visit in Sumter.

Col. and Mrs. J. J. Dargan, Misses Theodosia and Bessie Dargan, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. T. P. Sanders at Hagood.

Mr. S. Oliver Plowden of the Gen. Sumter Memorial Academy, spent Saturday and Sunday at his home in Clarendon county.

Miss Georgia Dargan spent Sunday with the Friersons at "Cherry Vale."

On last Wednesday morning the Beethoven Music Club of the G. S. M. A. had its regular meeting. The programme was very interesting and enjoyed thoroughly by all present.

SMITHVILLE.

Smithville, April 14.—Dry weather still prevails. The oat crop will be a failure unless rain comes soon. Gardens are at a standstill, nothing can grow or come up. Corn is coming up, but will have a very poor stand as some of it is lying in ground not even sprouted. We had a little shower yesterday afternoon, just enough to lay the dust for a few hours. Its cloudy today but cool. Not likely to rain.

Mr. and Mrs. James Wilson, of Herlots, and Master Sam Lee, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Robertson.

Mr. T. C. and Miss Colsey Robertson went to Camden shopping last Saturday.

Mr. J. W. Robertson visited Mr. S. W. Elmore on last Sunday.

Mrs. J. W. Weldon and Mrs. James Wilson were the guests of Mrs. T. C. Robertson last Monday.

Mrs. T. D. Foxworth and children of McColl, are visiting her mother, Mrs. M. C. Brown.

CONCORD.

Concord, April 13.—Messrs. D. H. and E. L. Newman visited their sister, Mrs. R. F. Smith at St. Charles, last week, also their friends at Spring Hill. Reported a nice time.

Mr. J. M. Tisdale, Jr., visited his friends and relatives at Lynchburg last Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. Jimmie McFadden and brother spent the night in this community Tuesday night.

After a nice rain every thing looks fresh and growing. The farmers are hurrying with the soda on their oats and wheat, while they have the advantage of the long looked for rain.

Good many from around here were in town Tuesday. Among some of those were Mr. T. E. Newman, E. L. Newman, D. L. Smith, Tom Hodge, Mr. W. J. Jones, Clinton Jones and R. D. Tisdale.

Mr. Clarence Jones spent the day with his friends in Mayesville last Sunday.

Misses Agnes Harper and Mary Mellette will close their schools on April 26, and will have a picnic on the 27th at Lewis Chapel church.

Mrs. Alice J. Josey's friends are glad to see her able to be out again.

Mrs. D. L. Smith and children spent the day with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Newman on Wednesday.

LYNCHBURG.

Lynchburg, April 12.—The annual election for intendant and four wardens for this town resulted in the unanimous election of Col. J. A. Rhame for intendant, and T. G. Griffin, S. L. Tallon, H. L. Hickson and Thomas H. Miller for wardens. There was not a ripple of unpleasantness during the day as there was not an opposing vote. As Messrs. W. E. McIntosh and D. C. Truett are not residents of this town now, Messrs. Hickson and Miller were elected in their place.

A few persons, among whom were Mr. S. W. Frierson, G. W. Stokes and Miss Ethridge went to Charleston to witness the presentation of the silver service today.

In consequence of the unusually dry weather people are becoming uneasy and fearful of crop failure. The oat crop is already badly damaged and the soil is as dry as a powder house. About sun down a severe sand storm, without a minute's warning, swept over this place, and several ladies were caught on the streets and badly frightened. The sand was indeed

blinding, being swept with such force in a body's face by the strong wind. No damage was done in this place.

A young man came in town the other day and reported having seen the comet down in the east about 4:50 a. m., and that it was "simply grand." Yes, the "morning" star about that time was certainly bright.

Since writing the above we have had fairly copious and indeed refreshing showers, so this morning everything with the farmers seems encouraging.

Mr. Ellen, who came from Bishopville to catch the 8 o'clock train, this morning, says no rain fell in his town up to the time he left. So the showers are by no means general.

DARK CORNER.

Dark Corner, April 13.—We had a real good shower of rain here last night, which was very much needed as the vegetables that were up in our gardens were withering for the want of moisture. And string and butter beans that were planted could not come up as the earth was so dry.

About sunset yesterday evening the wind blew pretty hard here for a few minutes, but no damage was done as far as I have learned.

Corn has not come up to a good stand, but is lying in the ground not even swelled. I suppose that the land is too dry to make it germinate.

Not much cotton planted here as yet. I guess though that the bulk of the cotton crop about here will be planted this week and next.

The Manchester Township Board of Assessors held their last meeting last Friday, the 8th at Mr. S. M. Coulters store, and sent the returns in to Auditor Wilder on Saturday.

Mr. Avin is still very sick.

Mr. Wm. S. Ardis, formerly of this place, but now at Augusta, Ga., is out on a visit to relatives here and at Pinewood.

Mr. and Mrs. Dud Weeks visited Mr. and Mrs. Don Geddings near Pinewood last Sunday.

I was in your city for a few hours last Saturday and had the pleasure of dining with my old friends, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Weeks. I was sorry to find their daughter (Miss Daisy) quite sick and in the infirmary. Hope she is better before now. Well it is getting time for me to go to ploughing, so I will ring off.

EGYPT.

Egypt, April 13.—Spring has opened in earnest and everything is in full bloom. We are needing rain very bad in this section. Oats and corn are suffering very much from the drouth—over six weeks since we have had any rain.

Cotton planting is the order of the day.

Mr. L. H. White spent Saturday in Bishopville.

Mrs. J. R. McLeod spent several days of last week with relatives at Longtown.

Rev. T. L. Cole filled his regular appointment at Mizpah Sunday afternoon.

Mr. J. R. McLeod spent Saturday in Camden.

Mr. J. T. Munnerlyn spent today in our midst.

Mrs. J. W. Weldon and Misses Irene Weldon, and Dorothy Napier were in Camden last Saturday.

Last Sunday evening about 8 o'clock Mr. Eddie Lee and Miss Katie Corbette were married at the home of the bride's father, Mr. Dupree Corbette. Both were very popular in this section. Rev. R. E. Sharp officiating. We extend congratulations.

Mr. W. T. McLeod spent yesterday in Sumter.

The work on the new church at Smithville is progressing nicely. The building will be completed about July the 1st.

There are several picnics to come off in this section within the next few weeks.

The health of the community is very good. We have no sick to report.

STATEBURG.

Stateburg, April 13.—Mrs. W. L. Saunders is spending the week in Charleston, where she will be the guest of Mrs. Wm. H. Huger.

Miss Lillie Holcombe who has been visiting relatives in the neighborhood, has gone to Charleston to visit Mr. and Mrs. Ned Holcombe.

Mr. Charles Pinckney, of Sumter, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Screven Moore, at "The Oaks."

Mr. Hall Ramsey and his friend Mr. Wilder, of Wedgefield, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Ramsey.

Little Miss Emma Pinckney was the guest of her aunt, Mrs. Screven Moore, for a few days during the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Anderson, after a pleasant visit to Dr. and Mrs. W. W. Anderson, have returned to their home in Richmond, Va.

Mr. DeSaussure Moore is on a visit to Mrs. James S. Pinckney at "The Ruins."

On Friday night at 8 o'clock, a very charming school entertainment was given at "The Oaks," by Miss Lee Moore, teacher of the "Argyle school." The scholars covered themselves with glory, and reflected great credit on their teacher's careful training. Later

in the evening, refreshments were sold, and quite a nice sum realized, which will be used for school improvements. The entertainment was very much enjoyed by the large number in attendance.

Last night there was a slight shower, and although it was scarcely enough to lay the dust, we at least hope the drought is now broken and that we will have the good rains, which for so long, have been sadly needed.

MAX.

Max, April 14.—A terrific dust storm of a few minutes duration last Tuesday evening was followed that night by a good rain.

A great deal of tobacco was set yesterday.

Some have finished planting cotton, others are planting.

In two instances recently ladies, who were driving horses they did not know to be safe, narrowly escaped serious accidents by their horses taking fright.

Mr. J. C. Truluck and daughter, Miss Mazelle, also others from about here went to Charleston Tuesday.

Mrs. W. B. Goodman was the recipient from her husband of several pieces of beautiful table silver, ware also, of a splendid piano from her son Russell, recently.

A lady tells laughingly how she was unexpectedly relieved of pain of an abscess on her jaw, which she had suffered for several days. Her little daughter came into her room holding a young chick, she had killed. It was not her first offence of the kind. The mother became exasperated and made a sudden movement, that broke the abscess.

TINDAL.

Tindal, April 14.—The farmers in this neighborhood are very busy now planting cotton and doing other farm work which has been awaiting rain which came on Tuesday night.

Mr. C. M. Witherspoon and family of Mayesville, spent last Sunday at Mr. T. E. Hodge's.

Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Tindal are spending a few days in Charleston this week.

Messrs. Harry Hodge and Haskell Broadway are visiting friends at Mayesville this week.

Strange Result of Increased Gold Supply.

One of the strangest results of the increasing gold supply is high interest rates. Most men, and even most editors and financial writers, have assumed that more money means cheaper money. It does, but not lower rates of interest. Interest is what is paid for the use of capital. It is measured by money, but it is not really paid in money any more than are real wages. Interest, therefore, shows the same tendency to advance, when gold is depreciating, as do prices or wages.

There are two reasons why interest rates should be high when gold is depreciating. 1. Because, when prices are rising, there are great opportunities to make money, speculatively, by purchasing and holding real property. This fact leads enterprising men not only to borrow all they can at low rates of interest, but to bid for money until rates become very high. 2. To offset the shrinkage in the principal of a debt. Thus, if prices are advancing five per cent. a year, the purchasing power of a dollar is shrinking about five per cent. A man who loaned \$1,000 at four per cent. would, at the end of the year, get back \$1,040, he would find that it would purchase less than the \$1,000 loaned at the beginning of the year. When translated into capital—what was really loaned—he would have received back less than he loaned. That is, instead of receiving interest, he would really have paid the borrower a small premium for holding his capital. The lender should in fairness not only receive back his principal unimpaired, but should receive something for the use of it. He should, in fact, receive a rate of interest that would yield him at least three per cent. after making good the loss to the principal because of the shrinkage in its purchasing power.—Byron W. Holt, in the April Everybody's.

Didn't Stay Her Time Out.

Old colored Joe had for many years been man of all work for the Gordons. When the family moved to another town, Joe remained in Reading. Several years later when Mr. Gordon returned to Reading on business, old Joe heard he was in town and went at once to the home of Mr. Gordon's sister. They were at dinner and at one of the open windows Joe took his stand, a pleased grin on his face. After Joe had asked about each member of Mr. Gordon's family, Mr. Gordon said, "Where's Harve now, Joe?" Harve was Joe's brother. "He's daid, suh," returned Joe. "A woman in Felt Smith shot him." "What did they do to her?" asked Mr. Gordon.

"They put her in the penitentiary for life—she didn't stay her time out, tho," said Joe.

"She didn't? Why not?" asked Mr. Gordon.

"She's daid," said Joe.

FOR IMPROVED METHODS.

PRESIDENT FINLEY SPEAKS OF RAVAGES OF BOLL WEEVIL.

In an Article Prepared for the Press President Finley Urges Preparation For the Advent of the Boll Weevil.

The following article was sent out by the President of the Southern Railway, Mr. W. W. Finley:

My close business association with the South and my intense interest in everything bearing on Southern prosperity prompts me to write to you on the present outlook for agriculture in the South with special reference to the cotton situation.

The world demand for cotton is constantly increasing. Dr. S. A. Knapp, of the United States Agricultural Department, has estimated that it doubles once in about twenty-two years. This means that the farmers of our section will be called upon for larger supplies in future years. The practical question is how this increased demand can be supplied so as to yield the largest margin of profit to our farmers.

Co-incidental with the increased demand for cotton the prices of grains, forage crops and meat products of all kinds are advancing. I do not believe, thereby planting larger areas, to the exclusion of other crops or the neglect of live stock growing. I would suggest, on the contrary, that more attention be given to the diversification of crops and to live stock and that cotton production be increased by the adoption of those methods of seed selection, soil preparation and cultivation which will result in larger yields per acre. There is reason to believe that the demand for cotton will generally maintain the price at a level that will make intensive cultivation profitable, but, if conditions should be such as to depress the price in some seasons, the farmer who has grown his own corn and meat, and who has live stock and other farm products for sale, will be affected much less by the low price of cotton than will he who has nothing for sale but cotton and who must buy meat for his family and feed for his work animals. I believe that the South can keep pace with the growing demand for cotton and can, at the same time, increase its output of other farm products.

It may be objected that the possible spread of the Mexican cotton boll weevil east of the Mississippi River will tend to reduce the average production per acre in the areas affected and make it impossible to keep pace with the demand for cotton without increasing the acreage at the expense of other crops. I believe that a study of the effect of the weevil in the localities where it has been longest present does not sustain this objection. In fact, while the weevil is the most serious insect pest that the cotton grower has been called upon to combat it has been demonstrated that by the adoption of proper methods it can be so far controlled that substantially as large yields per acre can be obtained as before its invasion, and, what is of more importance to the South as a whole, the methods that have been developed in fighting the weevil are identical those which will serve to increase the production per acre in those localities where the insect is unknown. They are methods, therefore, the adoption of which in regions where the weevil exists is imperative, but which may be adopted with profit by the cotton grower in any part of the South.

The weevil crossed the Rio Grande into Texas about 1892, but did not attract general attention until 1894, since which year, as the area in which it is present has gradually increased, the insect itself and methods of controlling it have been subjects of constant study by the United States Agricultural Department. State agricultural officials and intelligent farmers. The direction and extent of its future spread cannot be predicted with certainty but the farmers east of the Mississippi have the great advantage of the knowledge and experience gained in the campaign that has been waged against it for sixteen years in the territory west of the river, where it has been demonstrated that cotton can be grown successfully and profitably in spite of its presence.

This may be illustrated by some facts as to production under boll weevil conditions. In the State of Texas the area which it is present, as shown by the accompanying chart of that State has been approximately the same since 1906, embracing by far the greater part of the cotton-growing area of the State. Yet the two largest crops ever produced in Texas—those of 1906 and 1908—were grown under these boll weevil conditions. There are fluctuations in the size of the crop in Texas as well as in other parts of the cotton belt, but, where scientific methods of combating it are adopted, these fluctuations are due not so much to the presence of the boll weevil as to weather conditions. Thus the crop of 1909 in Texas was more than a million bales below the crop of 1908, but Dr. Knapp has expressed the opinion that, but for the excessively hot and dry weather which prevailed in the middle of the growing season

the yield would have been the largest in the history of cotton growing in the State. He points out as significant, the fact that the greatest decrease as compared with 1908 was in the dry western part of the State where the weevil is least prevalent, while in the eastern counties where the insect is most numerous there was the least falling off. Dr. Knapp estimates roughly that the falling off in the eastern part of the State where the weevil was worst was only about 7 per cent; in the central part, about 23 per cent, and in the western part, where the weevil is less prevalent, about 51 per cent, tending to show that the short crop in Texas in 1909 should not be charged to the weevil, but to the unfavorable weather conditions. Fluctuations in yield due to weather conditions are inevitable, whether the weevil is present or not. Thus, Calhoun County, Ala., which has never had a boll weevil in it, had an unfavorable season in 1902 and produced 8,811 bales, but two years later, under favorable weather conditions the yield of the county was more than twice as much—18,587 bales.

In localities west of the Mississippi the appearance of the weevil was followed by a decline in production, but with the adoption of the methods recommended by the Agricultural Department and the State officials, improved results were soon attained.

In Limestone County, Texas, the normal production before the boll weevil appeared was about 50,000 bales. In 1902 the county produced 52,562 bales. In 1903 the weevil cut the crop down to 17,039 bales. The Agricultural Department methods of combating the insect were introduced and the production rose to 41,992 bales in 1904; 38,110 bales in the season of 1905, when the weather conditions were favorable; 38,253 under the unfavorable weather conditions of 1907; 70,525 in 1908, when the weather was favorable, and 50,184 under the unfavorable weather conditions of 1909.

Harrison County, Texas, had a normal production of about 20,000 bales before the weevil appeared. It did not become destructive until 1905, when, in spite of favorable weather conditions, the crop was reduced to 18,131 bales. The next year with a combination of the weevil and unfavorable weather conditions it fell to 7,883 bales. In 1908, with a favorable season and the general adoption of Agricultural Department methods it rose to 16,844 bales, and in the unfavorable season of 1909 the crop was 16,983 bales.

In De Soto Parish, La., the normal yield before the appearance of the weevil was about 29,000 bales. The weevil and generally unfavorable conditions cut this down to 6,343 bales in 1907. The adoption of Agricultural Department methods resulted in a crop of 13,625 bales in 1908, and, although weather conditions were less favorable in 1909 the parish produced 14,190 bales, showing the same tendency to return to normal productivity noted in the Texas counties. At the same time, in those localities where the weevil has been present for a series of years, there has been a marked development of diversified agriculture which has been highly beneficial to the farmers.

The above figures show that in the region west of the Mississippi the appearance of the weevil has generally been followed by a marked decline in production for from one to three years, until the farmers could learn and put into practice the methods necessary for its control. This emphasizes the importance of the immediate adoption of those methods in the regions where it has not yet appeared. If it should subsequently spread to them it will find the farmers prepared and the damage will be minimized, and the excerpts of the Agricultural Department are agreed that, in the meantime, the production of cotton per acre will be largely increased. I think there can be no doubt that the cotton growers west of the Mississippi river, could have maintained substantially their normal production if they had not waited until the appearance of the boll weevil before adopting improved methods. I believe, therefore, that it is of the utmost importance that the farmers east of the river should adopt these methods whether they are in territory immediately threatened by the weevil or not.

The methods that the United States Department of Agriculture strongly urges upon cotton growers everywhere, with a view to obtaining increased yields without increasing acreage and in connection with diversified farming, and which, at the same time, are the methods necessary for the control of the boll weevil, are that seed shall be carefully selected with a view to the production of early varieties with the dwarf habit, fruiting close to the ground and producing large bolls of cotton with a good length of staple; that preparation of the soil should be commenced by deep plowing early in the winter, followed by harrowing once or twice during the winter; that the seed bed should be thoroughly prepared and the seed planted as early as the soil has become warm enough to insure rapid germination; that shallow cultivation

should thereafter be commenced as early as possible and should be continued constantly until some of the bolls begin to open; that excessively wet lands should be drained or devoted to other crops; that farmers throughout the cotton belt should practice diversification and crop rotation, and that they should generally give more attention to live stock.

The Department of Agriculture has published pamphlets containing full information as to these improved methods of growing cotton. I shall be glad to procure copies of these circulars and send them to any cotton growers who may write to me at my office, Washington, D. C., and I am authorized to state that they will be sent direct to any grower who will address an application to the Agricultural Department at Washington.

Yours truly,

W. W. FINLEY,
President.

BRYAN WRITES LETTER.

Quotes President's Endorsement of Money Theory.

Washington, April 13.—William Jennings Bryan, in a letter written from Brazil, to be read at the Jefferson Day banquet here tonight, comments as follows upon the money question:

"President Taft, in his Lincoln Day speech at New York, February 12, attributed the present high prices mainly to the increased production of gold and the consequent enlargement of the volume of money. This unexpected endorsement of our party's position in 1896, when we demanded more money as the only remedy for falling prices, is very gratifying. How valuable that admission would have been to us had it been made during the campaign that year, when the Republican leaders denied that the volume of money had an influence on prices and asserted that it did not matter whether we had much money or little, provided it was all good."

"We may now consider the quantitative theory of money established beyond dispute and proceed to the consideration of other questions. But the president and his predecessor admitted the correctness of the Democratic position on so many questions that further argument is hardly necessary on any subject, and we may now take judgment against the Republican party by confession."

Mr. Bryan, continuing, declares the time is ripe for the return to Jeffersonian principles. He adds: "I trust the representatives of our party will make a record which will secure us a majority at the coming congressional elections. With that advantage gained, the Democrats will have an opportunity to outline a programme and with a programme in harmony with Jeffersonian ideas, Democracy will enter the presidential campaign with promise of success."

MORE PAY FOR FEDERAL JUDGES.

Present Congress Will Probably Marginally Increase Salaries.

Washington, April 13.—Indications point strongly at this time to the passage by Congress at the present session of a bill to increase the salaries of all Federal Judges.

For many years persistent efforts have been made to secure the enactment of such legislation, but without success. It has been argued that the present salaries of the judiciary are entirely out of keeping with the work required and with the dignity of the position. Many bills have been introduced in both houses of Congress. It is learned now that before the end of the present session comes some tangible results will be achieved.

It is proposed to increase the salary of Chief Justice Fuller, of the United States Supreme Court, from \$13,000 to \$18,000, of the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court from \$12,500 to \$17,500; of the Circuit Judges from \$7,000 to \$10,000, and the District Judges from \$6,000 to \$9,000.

While it is recognized that the increase in the aggregate pay of the Circuit and District Judges in different parts of the country would reach a considerable amount, it is believed that the time has come for substantial increase in these salaries. The same men, it is claimed, serving in a private capacity would be able to earn considerably more each year.

Clarendon County Enumerators.

The following have been appointed census enumerators for Clarendon County:

White Enumerators—R. D. White, Alcolu; C. M. Huggins, Pinewood; F. A. Felder, Summerton; M. D. Baird, Turberville; B. C. Ragin, Summerton; Mrs. Lillie Felder, Summerton; L. R. McIntosh, Manning; A. S. Todd, Manning; H. L. McIntosh, Workman; J. E. McFadden, Mayesville; H. W. Mitchell, Wilson; M. J. Davis, Jordan; E. D. Hodge, Jr., Alcolu; J. H. Billups, Summerton; J. M. King, St. Paul; A. A. Broadway, Manning; G. R. Jones, Davis Station.

Colored Enumerators—I. M. A. Meyers, Manning; J. P. Garrick, Manning.